



**Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice & Accessibility (DEIJA)
Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, December 16, 2025 11:00 AM
Minutes**

Present: Rachel Dworkin (Chemung County Historical Society), Karin Wikoff (Ithaca College); Jenny Shonk (Finger Lakes Library System); Beth Hylen (Corning Museum of Glass, retired)

ex officio: Christine Brown, Jessica Philippe

Excused: Virgilio Pinto (Ithaca College); Allie Shanafelter (Corning Museum Of Glass)

Notes from Last Meeting ([October 21, 2025](#))

Around the Table

Rachel- They have a Smithsonian Travelling Exhibit about [Japanese War Brides](#) (it features a Chemung County resident's story about her mom). They will have a series of events around this that will include Japanese art. They are waiting on a grant to put everything together.

Karin- The Village of Aurora argued their case for the Wells College Archives to go to the Aurora-Ledyard HS, but so far they can't move forward legally even though the judge was sympathetic. The Arthur Leffingwell materials are a part of the collection and they include materials from all over the world. Karin listened to a webinar about the Trump administration's efforts to dismantle equitable hiring practices in colleges/universities.

Jenny- At FLLS, they just updated their IDEA statement slightly. The other big thing they are working on is web accessibility. They are encouraging their IT department to take the lead. It can be hard to know if you are correctly meeting the standards and this work is time consuming.

Beth- The CMOG is putting together an exhibit for summer on [women in glass](#) from the '60's and '70's.

Title II Accessibility-

How will it affect ILL? The Empire State Library Network will hold a webinar series beginning in February starting with a webinar on the legal aspects. Jenny reminded us that the VoiceOver software can be hard to use and hard to turn off. Jenny also mentioned that they will be simplifying their website in an effort to make it more accessible. This may be a good starting point for SCRLC as well.

Digitization Advisory Committee December Meeting

We talked about institutions that are being advised to not work with others, like SCRLC, who continues to do DEI work. Jenny mentioned that some of their member libraries do this work but cannot explicitly call it DEI because their rural communities would object. CCHS doesn't have a DEI committee, but they incorporate DEI work into all of their exhibits when possible. Corning Museum of Glass continues to be vocal about doing DEI work. SCRLC will continue doing DEI work and using that terminology. Public-facing organizations may have to be less explicit about this work if they hope to continue.

SCRLC Plan of Service – DEIJA Goals to be included in 2026-2031 PoS

We reviewed the DEIJA goals included in the next PoS. Since we plan to continue having a separate DEIJA Plan from the Plan of Service, it makes sense to refer to the DEIJA Plan as its own goal. Karin suggested that rather than trying to include DEIJA goals for each section, we could use Goal 8: Other to reaffirm our commitment to DEIJA and refer to the DEIJA Plan which breaks down our DEIJA goals into our component programs and services.

DEIJA in the SCRLC News

- STLS presented a program titled “Fostering DEI Initiatives in Rural Communities” at the NYLA Conference – shared in SCRLC News on November 14. (Jessica will pass along the slides from this presentation)

Next Steps: Take a look at Goal 8 in the [Plan of Service Goals Chart](#) and leave any comments or suggestions.

Upcoming meetings (we will continue to meet every other month in 2026)

Mark your calendars:

February 17, 11am

April 21, 11am

June 16, 11am

Minutes taken by Jessica